

TOP SECRET

0287-65

Copy 5 of 8

17 June 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, National Photographic Interpretation Center

SUBJECT : Forward Overlap

REFERENCE : [REDACTED] 1656-65 25X1A

1. In your Memorandum to the DD/S&T, dated 14 May 1965, you furnished comments on the need for a 10% forward overlap in satellite photography. I am very appreciative of these comments but would like to obtain some additional information very germane to this important question.

2. I am sure that, considering the cost of satellite launches, you can see that a reduction of only 1% in forward overlap could be considered to be worth, maybe, [REDACTED]

3. There are two approaches to an evaluation of the optimum amount of overlap. The first is to attempt to determine, from a consideration of equipment, what kind of yaw and other errors might occur, combine this with a minimum needed degree of net overlap in order to determine the optimum; and the second method is to examine an appropriate amount of recently obtained CORONA photography and, by examination, determine what the achieved average overlap was, both at the center and at the extreme of the swath. This average achieved overlap, together with the standard deviation in overlap, can then be compared to the scheduled 10% to test the adequacy of future programming.

4. It is my belief that this latter procedure is much more likely to produce believable results. I would therefore appreciate your considering accomplishing this study. I would be pleased to talk in further detail with either you or your representatives to define, to any degree of detail desired, the precise parameters.

SIGNED
25X1A

[REDACTED]
Chief, Systems Analysis Staff

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification
Approved For Release 2001/08/31 : CIA-RDP80B01138A000100010074-2

TOP SECRET

HANDLE VIA [REDACTED]

CHANNELS ONLY

25X1A